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LANGILLE'S OUR BIRDS AND THEIR HAUNTS.<sup>1</sup>—This is an out-of-door book by an out-of-door student of birds, and bears witness to much patient observation. The faults which an evolutionist may find in it will endear it to all those who instead of believing that function precedes structure, put the latter first and make it push its own motor. It seems strange that a working naturalist should suppose that birds are supernaturally fed, and should ask "when are they starving or wanting sustenance?" as though half-starved birds are not abundant in winter, and as though none perished! The book is wordy, or as its author would probably say, one of the most remarkable characteristics of the volume is its extraordinary verbosity.

Everybody is quoted; Wilson, Audubon, Thoreau, Coues, Burrough, Wallace, Dall, Maynard are presented in long paragraphs; there are bits of many a lesser light of zoölogy, and several "distinguished taxidermists" figure in the pages.

There is a good deal of information in the book, and moral lessons and quotations are quite as prominent as ornithology. The book is handsomely printed.

OUR LIVING WORLD.<sup>2</sup>—This serial natural history has now been completed, parts 33-42 having been received. We have already given samples of the elegant wood-cuts which adorn the well-printed pages. The oleographs in the last numbers are excellent. The excellence of the illustrations gives the chief value to the book, which is of interest to the young rather than to the scientific student, since none of Mr. Wood's writings are above criticism. The illustrations of the insects are entirely of exotic species. Such a work as this, whatever may be its scientific defects, is worthy of wide circulation, as it leads the young to thirst for knowledge of a more exact and detailed nature.

THOMPSON'S BIBLIOGRAPHY OF PROTOZOA, ETC.<sup>3</sup>—A bibliography of all works and scattered articles relating to animals lower in the scale than arthropods, mollusks and echinoderms fills a long-felt need. The author modestly states that he knows there are many omissions to be discovered in his list, and begs those who use it to judge these leniently and to help him to make them good. The specialist who finds fault with these 256 pages, full of the results of hard and, to the worker, dry work, must indeed be ungracious.

<sup>1</sup> *Our Birds and their Haunts*, a popular treatise on the birds of Eastern North America. By Rev. J. HIBBERT LANGILLE, M.A. Boston, S. E. Cassino & Co., 1884.

<sup>2</sup> Published by Selmar Hess, New York. Complete in forty-two parts at fifty cents each.

<sup>3</sup> *A Bibliography of Protozoa, Sponges, Cœlenterata and Worms*, including Polyzoa, Brachiopoda and Tunicata, for the years 1861-1883. By D'ARCY W. THOMPSON, B.A. Cambridge University press, 1885.